

RISE IN THE PRICES OF CONSUMER GOODS AND FOOD ARTICLES.

*Q.—798. Sri K. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO (Mysore City).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it has come to their notice that the prices of consumer goods and particularly the food articles are soaring up ;

(b) the steps taken by the Government during the course of the Second Plan to hold the price line ;

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to check the rise in price of food articles ?

A.—Sri K. F. PATIL (Minister for State Transport, Mining and Food).—

(a) It is true that there has been some rise in the prices of food-grains.

(b) As rice is the principal food-grain for most people in the State Government procured paddy/rice during the harvests of 1958 and 1959 and released rice through Fair Price Depots at reasonable prices.

Further, with a view to enable Government to keep track of available stocks, a system of licensing of rice dealers and millers has been introduced. With a view to conserve the rice resources of the Southern Zone (comprising the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Mysore and Kerala), the export of rice outside the Zone is banned. The Southern Rice Zone (Restrictions on Rail Bookings) Order, 1960 prohibiting the booking of rice within the Southern Zone to certain specified Railway Station in the border areas without valid permits has also been passed. These measures have arrested a further rise of the price of rice and indirectly of the other food-grains also.

(c) Government have arranged for the sale of rice, wheat, and sugar to *bona fide* consumers through Fair Price Shops at reasonable prices fixed by Government.

As the prices of the essential food-grains are inter-dependent, this measure has the effect of stabilising the prices of food-grains in general.

Sri K. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that on account of the greater facilities of credit for stocking foodgrains in marketing societies and not in warehousing corporations is one of the reasons for with holding stocks of foodgrains from the public ?

†Sri K. F. PATIL.—I did not follow the question.

Sri K. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO.—A larger portion of the foodgrains are being stocked in the co-operative societies and not in the warehousing corporations. Is it not one of the reasons for the grains not coming into the market in regular quantities?

Sri K. F. PATIL.—They are stocked there for a long time.

Sri K. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO.—Has not the stock of foodgrains in banks increased in recent years?

Sri K. F. PATIL.—The general policy is to obtain a fair price for foodgrains. That is why banks and co-operative institutions are taking up marketing also. But that has not come in the way of foodgrains being released to the public.

Sri C. K. RAJAJAH SHETTY.—The producers are given crores of rupees of loans. Thereby the stocks are withheld from the market. It is not a fact.

Sri K. F. PATIL.—Stocking generally gives ground for rise of prices, no doubt. But giving loans to producers does not mean that.

Sri C. K. RAJAJAH SHETTY.—Is it not the duty of the Government to see that the prices of foodgrains should not go up to harm the common man?

Sri K. F. PATIL.—But Government cannot allow the prices to go down, below the cost of production.

Sri C. K. RAJAJAH SHETTY.—Then what is the cost of production.

Sri K. F. PATIL.—There must be a reasonable margin between the cost of production and the sale price.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಜಿ. ನರಸಿಂಹೇಗೌಡ.—ರೈತರು ಬೆಳೆಯತಕ್ಕಂಥ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಿರುವಂತಹ ಇಂಥವುಗಳಿಂದ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಮಾರ್ಕೆಟಿಂಗ್ ಪ್ರೈವೆಟ್ ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದು ನಿಯಮವನ್ನು ಮಾಡುತ್ತೀರಾ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಚ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಮಾರ್ಕೆಟಿಂಗ್ ಪ್ರೈವೆಟ್ ಬೆಲೆಯನ್ನು ಗೊತ್ತು ಮಾಡಬಹುದು ಆದರೆ ಪೂರ್ವಿಯಾಗಿ ಅದನ್ನು ಕಂಟ್ರೋಲ್ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಬಹಳ ಕಷ್ಟ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಜಿ. ನರಸಿಂಹೇಗೌಡ.—ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳು ನಿಗದಿತ ಹಾಗೆ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೋಸ್ಕರ ಇಂಥಂಥ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಬೆಲೆಗಳು ಇಷ್ಟೇ ಇರಬೇಕೆಂದು ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೀರಾ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಚ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ಪ್ರೈವೆಟ್ ಇಷ್ಟೇ ಎಂದು ಮಾಡುವುದು ಬಹಳ ಕಷ್ಟ.

Sri L. S. VENKAJI RAO.—Is it not a fact that the advances made by the Banks are controlled by the Reserve Bank? Have the Government attempted to write to the Reserve Bank in regard to the advances and sought their help to reduce the same?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಚ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಕೆಲವು ಕಾಲದ ಹಿಂದೆ ಪುರ್ವ ಗ್ರೇನುಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಲೋನುಗಳನ್ನು ಕೋರಬಾರವೆಂದು ರಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಷನ್ ಇತ್ತು. ಈಗ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಸಡಿಲವಾಗಿದೆ.

Sri C. K. RAJAVAH SHETTY.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that the Reserve Bank has advised all the banks that no loans should be given to stock foodgrains ?

Sri K. F. PATIL.—The restrictions are there.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಆರ್. ರಾಮಯ್ಯ.—ಈಗ ರೈತರ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಗತಕ್ಕ ಬಂಡವಾಳಗಳು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಬೆರೆಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆಯನ್ನು ವುದು ಸರಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆಯೇ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಫ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕಮೋಟಿಲಗಳ ಬೆರೆಗಳೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಕಾನ್ಫೆಸ್ ಆ ಪೊರ್ದಕ್ಷ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಾ ಇದೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಬಿ. ಮಲ್ಲಾರಾಧ್ಯ.—1958-59-60-61 ನೇ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆರೆಗಳು ಎಷ್ಟು ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಏರುತ್ತಿದ್ದುವು ಮತ್ತು ಸರಕಾರದವರು ಕೈಗೊಂಡ ಕಾಯಕ್ರಮದಿಂದ ಬೆರೆಗಳು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಎಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ಹೇಳಬಲ್ಲರಾ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಫ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಅಳತೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟ ನಾನು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಮಾಡದಿದ್ದರೆ ಬೆರೆಗಳು ಇನ್ನೆಷ್ಟು ಏರುತ್ತಿದ್ದುವು ಎಂದು ಊಹಿಸುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಬಿ. ಮಲ್ಲಾರಾಧ್ಯ.—ಇವರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನದ ಫಲದಿಂದ ಎಲ್ಲೆಡೆದರೂ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆಯೇ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಫ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಬೆರೆಗಳು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗದಿದ್ದರೆ ಜೀವನಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಾಗಿ ಬೇಕಾದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಧಾರಣೆ ಇಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿ ಇರುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ನ್ನಲ್ಲ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆಯೆಂದು ತಾವು ಸ್ಪ್ಯಾಟಿಸ್ಟಿಕ್ ಸೆಂಟ್ರಿಡರ ಗೊತ್ತಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

Sri M. C. NARASIMHAN.—May I know as to whether some time back in the Chief Ministers, Conference, the Chief Minister of Mysore stated that as part of the measure of controlling rise in price of food grains, State trading in foodgrains would be adopted by the Government of Mysore and that the Government of Mysore is in favour of such a scheme ?

Sri K. F. PATIL.—That was also one of the subjects in the Chief Ministers, Conference.

Sri K. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that the laudable motive of the Government in helping the producer to get a fair deal has resulted in the middlemen stocking the foodgrains in godowns and thereby increasing the price of foodgrains in the market for the consume ?

Sri K. F. PATIL.—That is why restrictions have been placed on banks and co-operative societies.

Sri G. B. SHANKAR RAO.—May I know whether the stocks in godowns are being sold to individuals who in turn raise the price of food grains and thereby the price of foodgrains has risen very high in the market?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಫ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಗವರ್ನಮೆಂಟಿನವರು ಫೇರ್ ಪ್ರೈಸ್ ಶಾಪ್‌ಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾ ಇದ್ದೇವೆ.

ಎ. ಜಿ. ನರಸಿಂಹೇಗೌಡ.—ರೈತರು ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಆಹಾರ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಸರಿಯಾದ ಧಾರಣೆ ಸಿಕ್ಕುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಅನೇಕ ಸುಳಿ ಸಂಭವಿಲ್ಲ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ತಂದಿಲ್ಲವೆ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಫ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ನಿಮ್ಮಂಥವರು ತಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರಿಗೆ ಯೋಗ್ಯಧಾರಣೆ ಸಿಕ್ಕುತ್ತದೆ ಆದರೆ ಕೊಳ್ಳುವವರಿಗೆ ದುಬಾರಿಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಆರ್. ರಾಮಯ್ಯ.—ರೈತರು ತಾವು ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಆಹಾರ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಸರಿಯಾದ ಬೆರೆ ಸಿಕ್ಕುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಬೇರೆ ಬೆಳೆಗಳನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ತಮ್ಮ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆಯೆ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಎಫ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಎಲ್ಲ ಆಹಾರ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳಿಗೂ ಇದು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

Sri K. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO.—Could the Government give us the actual stock position with these banks and to what extent the direct producer, the agriculturist,*holds it ?

Sri K. F. PATIL.—I want notice.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

RELIEF TO THE PEOPLE AFFECTED DUE TO THE FLOODS IN SOUTH KANARA.

Q.—45. Sri V. SRINIVASA SHETTY (Coondapur).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of persons affected by the recent floods in South Kanara District and the total amount of cash grants distributed to them so far (Talukwise information to be furnished);

(b) the total amount of interest-free loans granted in the District and to how many persons (Talukwise information to be furnished);

(c) the total amount of assessment remitted or proposed to be remitted in the District (Talukwise figures to be furnished);

(d) the total amount of cash and other materials granted for construction of houses and to how many persons (Talukwise figure, to be furnished);

(e) the number of fair-price shops that have been opened in scarcity areas of the District (Talukwise information to be furnished) ?

A.—Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA (Minister for Revenue).—

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) *Vide* Statement appended.